

ABSTRACT

The invention relates to a scheduler method and device for handling output queues in a switch. The invention incorporates a number of co-operating techniques such as weighted and deficit driven round-robin and interleaving. The invention provides a scheduling method in a switch in which an input data stream is received and stored in a number of output queues, the method comprising the steps of: polling all queues in order; if the polled queue contains data, refilling a deficit value indicating a maximum amount of data that may be sent from this queue; if the deficit value permits, sending data, and decreasing the deficit value a corresponding amount for the polled queue, else disabling the queue; if any queue is permitted to send after all the queues have been polled, going to a local round, else start polling the first queue of the order again. The invention enables e.g. priority treatment of queues, fairness with regard to varying packet lengths and avoids burstiness.